



Jerry Palencer

June 26, 1949 - March 23, 2026

Jerry Stephen Palencer, 76, of Monrovia, Indiana, completed his earthly journey on March 23, 2026, at St. Francis Hospital South. A man defined by his devotion to family, his hardworking nature, and his unwavering principles, Jerry leaves behind a legacy of laughter, loyalty, and a life well-lived.

Born in Indianapolis on June 26, 1949, Jerry was a 1967 graduate of Ben Davis High School. He was the second of four sons born to Joseph and Ellen (Miller) Palencer. A dedicated employee, Jerry spent 45 years working for Kroger at the Plainfield, Mooresville, Greencastle, and Southport locations until his deserved retirement. He was a man of firm convictions; he was politically conservative and proud of the values he held throughout his life.

Jerry's life took a beautiful turn on a blind date arranged by a cousin. That first date—a hockey game—led to a year of courtship and a 42-year marriage to the love of his life, Paula Jo (Murray) Palencer, whom he married on May 5, 1984.

Prior to moving to Monrovia, Jerry and Paula lived in Eminence in a home he and his father, Joseph, built together. That property held a special place in his heart, particularly the pond where he spent countless hours fishing and feeding the birds and ducks. Jerry was a man who appreciated the simple peace of the outdoors, a trait he carried with him throughout his years.

An active father, Jerry was always involved in his children's lives, frequently coaching softball and baseball. As "Pap," he found his greatest joy in his "grandbabies," whom he loved to spoil. He cherished taking the grandkids to the park and watching them grow with immense pride.

Known as a "jokester" who was as stubborn as he was caring, Jerry had many passions. He was an avid baseball card and autograph collector, often enjoying the thrill of getting cards signed in person at games. He also loved listening to oldies music and attended Hazelwood Christian Church. At home, he shared a notable love-hate relationship with the family cat, appropriately named Kitten.

Jerry was preceded in death by his parents, Joseph and Ellen (Miller) Palencer, and his sister-in-law, Cathy Palencer.

He is survived by his beloved wife, Paula; his children, Ryan (Stacy) Palencer and Kelly (Andrew) Stuart, both of Monrovia; and his cherished grandchildren: Leilyn, Everett, Kai, Alex, Laurie, and Joslyn. He also leaves behind his brothers, Greg (Patty) Palencer of Plainfield, Loren (Kathy) Palencer of Avon, and Jeff Palencer of Indianapolis; along with several nieces, nephews, and cousins.

Friends and family are invited to gather for visitation held from 5:00 to 7:00 PM on Wednesday, April 1, 2026, at Light Memorial & Funeral Chapel in Monrovia. Cremation will take place after the gathering. To share a favorite story, send an online condolence to the family, or light a candle in his memory, please visit <https://www.lightmemorial.com>.

Cemetery Details

Cremation to Follow Services

Light Memorial
585 E. Main Street
Monrovia, IN 46157
(317) 996-2101

Previous Events

Visitation

APR 1. 5:00 PM - 7:00 PM (ET)

Light Memorial & Funeral Chapel
585 East Main Street
Monrovia, IN 46157
(317) 996-2101
<https://www.lightmemorial.com>

Tribute Wall



“ 51 files added to the album *Life Tributes*



Light Memorial & Funeral Chapel - April 01 at 10:43 AM

LF

“ *Love, Greg, Patty and family. purchased the Sweet Tranquility Basket for the family of Jerry Palencer.*



Love, Greg, Patty and family. - April 01 at 09:17 AM

KO

“ *Katrina Owens purchased the Beautiful in Blue for the family of Jerry Palencer.*



Katrina Owens - March 30 at 11:49 PM

KO

“ Katrina Owens planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Jerry Palencer.

Katrina Owens - March 30 at 11:49 PM

PB

“ prayers. Connie Brandes purchased the Serene Retreat for the family of Jerry Palencer.



prayers. Connie Brandes - March 30 at 04:32 PM

PB

“ prayers. Connie Brandes planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Jerry Palencer.

prayers. Connie Brandes - March 30 at 04:32 PM

GP

“ Jerry and I shared a bedroom for over twenty years. We shared a lot about our hopes and dreams. We shared a love of sports, trips out west and many weekends at the family cabin. Jerry's love of his family was amazing. I will miss our phone calls, the ball games and the memories. God saw fit to take you suddenly and I did not get a chance to say goodbye. I know that you are in mom and dad's arms but you are missed by many here. God's speed my brother. A life well lived.

Greg Palencer - March 30 at 03:46 PM

SC

“ Paula, so very sorry to hear of Jerry's passing. He was a great guy! I will be praying for you, Kelly and Ryan. Love, Sherry Cecil

Sherry Cecil - March 30 at 01:51 PM



“ Blue Caribbean Bouquet was purchased for the family of Jerry Palencer.



March 29 at 06:46 PM



“ A [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) was planted in honor of Jerry Palencer.

March 29 at 06:46 PM

MT

“ I loved having Jerry in the Indians baseball lobby with me before the games. You are greatly missed Jerry, especially on Opening Day.
⚾ Michelle

Michelle Trevino - March 27 at 03:44 PM

LH

“ It was always a joy to spend time at a ballpark chasing autographs with Jerry. He has become a local legend over the years. His presence will be greatly missed by us all. God speed my friend!

Lee Harmon - March 26 at 07:18 PM